

May 3, 2006

## **Mayor Coleman asks City Employees and All Residents to Help in Annual Spring Cleanup**

Mayor Michael B. Coleman and the City's Keep Columbus Beautiful program are poised to kickoff a major cleanup effort on Saturday, May 6, 2006. City of Columbus Employees, families and friends will join area residents at 10 am in Driving Park, located at 1100 Rhoads Ave., on the City's near east side. The cleanup volunteers will be assigned to pick up litter, clear brush, plant and mulch in a target area bounded by Whittier Street on the south, Mooberry Street on the north, Parsons Avenue on the west, and Rhoads Avenue on the east. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year city employees have joined the Mayor to remove negative environmental conditions from one of the city's blighted neighborhoods. This year Mayor Coleman is inviting the entire community to join him in this cleanup effort, not only in the target area, but also in every part of the city.

**"We're all working together to make a difference in neighborhoods, and this clean up is a great way to bring all our families, co-workers and friends out to make a difference. We can do a lot when we volunteer to help Keep Columbus Beautiful, and this spring clean up is a great way to start," stated Mayor Michael B. Coleman.**

Volunteers for Saturday's event are scheduled to clean in the area from 10 to noon. A cookout and remarks by Mayor Coleman and special guests begin at noon in Driving Park.

Keep Columbus Beautiful (KCB) is a community improvement program focused on litter prevention, graffiti removal and beautification projects. KCB works year-round with neighborhood groups and organizations to take on area cleanups. In 2005 **Keep Columbus Beautiful** recorded 500 litter clean-ups, over 10,000 volunteers, 26-thousand volunteer hours, and 338-thousand pounds of litter collected. The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) recently recognized Keep Columbus Beautiful's accomplishments with a 2006 Central Ohio Emerald Award for litter prevention.

**To volunteer to participate in the Mayor's Cleanup on Saturday, May 6 at Driving Park, or to organize an area cleanup anytime, please contact Keep Columbus Beautiful at 614-645-8027.**

Keep Columbus Beautiful is located in the City of Columbus Public Service Department's Division of Refuse. Additional information can be found on the program's website at [www.keepcolumbusbeautiful.org](http://www.keepcolumbusbeautiful.org).